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PORT HEALTH DISTRICT
OF WORKINGTON



Annual Report

OF THE
PORT MEDICAL OFFICER

For the Year 1963

BY

JAMES L. HUNTER,
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*Public Health Department,
Town Hall, Workington.
February, 1964.*



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MEMBERS OF THE WORKINGTON PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

Chairman :

COUNCILLOR H. H. McMANUS.

(Workington Borough)

COUNCILLOR J. BROWN (Cockermouth R.D.C.)

„ W. J. CONNOR (Workington Borough)

„ T. G. EDWARDS (Workington Borough)

„ J. E. LOVELL (Workington Borough)

„ T. McCracken (Ennerdale R.D.C.)

„ J. E. MILLER (Workington Borough)

„ J. C. MOORE (Workington Borough)

„ J. STANGER (Cockermouth R.D.C.)

ALDERMAN W. A. WALKER (Workington Borough)

TOWN HALL,

WORKINGTON.

February, 1964.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Workington Port Health Authority.*

Mr. Chairman and Members,

I present my Annual Report for the year 1963 which has been prepared in the form and sequence as required by the Ministry of Health Form Port 20, dated October, 1952.

No case of infectious disease was reported during the year and the health of seamen arriving in vessels has been satisfactory.

The majority of foreign-going vessels are of modern design providing good conditions and amenities for seamen. The condition of coastwise vessels, the subject of adverse comments in past years, is gradually being improved.

Once again it is pleasing to report the absence of rats and vermin on vessels and in dockside buildings.

There has been a decrease in imports (chiefly iron ore) during the year, but petroleum products increased from 43,293 tons to 67,925 tons.

SECTION I—STAFF.

<i>Name of Officer.</i>	<i>Nature of Appointment.</i>	<i>Date of Appointment.</i>	<i>Any other Appointments held.</i>
George McKay Porter, Solicitor	Clerk.	March, 1959	Town Clerk, Borough of Workington.
James L. Hunter, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.	Port Medical Officer of Health.	July, 1950	Medical Officer of Health, Borough of Workington. Senior Assistant, Medical Officer, Cumberland County Council.
Ronald E. Fletcher, M.B., Ch.B.	Deputy Port Medical Officer.	October, 1941	Private Practitioner.
*† Richard James	Port Health Inspector.	February, 1933.	Chief Public Health Inspector, Borough of Workington.
*Charles E. Pearson	Assistant Port Health Inspector.	November, 1948	Assistant Public Health Inspector, Borough of Workington.

*Holds the statutory qualification as a Public Health Inspector.

†Holds the Meat and Other Foods Certificate of the R.S.H.

Address and Telephone Number of the

Medical Officer of Health:—PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

TOWN HALL, WORKINGTON.

PHONE: WORKINGTON 2251.

SECTION II.

SHIPPING ENTERING THE PORT DURING THE YEAR.

<i>Ships from.</i>	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Net Tonnage.</i>	<i>Number Inspected.</i>		<i>Number of ships reported as having, or having had, during the voyage, infectious disease on board.</i>
			<i>By the Medical Officer of Health.</i>	<i>By the Port Health Inspectors.</i>	
Foreign Ports	91	185,343	14	91	Nil
Coastwise	333	88,811	Nil	316	Nil
Total	424	274,154	14	407	Nil

SECTION III.

CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND TRADE DURING THE YEAR.

Passenger Traffic:

Number of passengers Inwards ...	...	14
Number of passengers Outwards	...	Nil

Cargo Traffic:

The number of vessels arriving increased by eight as compared with 1962, but imports decreased by 55,942 tons.

Iron and manganese ores	...	...	524,980 tons
Petroleum	...	...	67,925 tons
Pig Iron	...	...	8,358 tons
Rock phosphates	...	...	5,107 tons
Bricks and ganister	...	...	2,537 tons
Scrap ingot moulds	...	...	1,644 tons
Aluminium	...	...	1,293 tons
Miscellaneous cargoes	...	...	150 tons
			611,994 tons

Exports decreased by 14,433 tons as compared with 1962.

Billets	...	...	...	...	20,528 tons
Ingot moulds	...	...	...	...	17,894 tons
Coal	...	...	...	...	12,380 tons
Pig iron	...	...	...	...	8,506 tons
Rails	...	...	...	...	4,814 tons
Pitch	...	...	...	...	4,700 tons
Soleplates	...	...	...	...	3,133 tons
Sleepers	...	...	...	...	1,426 tons
Tar	...	...	...	...	1,299 tons
Fishplates	...	...	...	...	677 tons
Miscellaneous cargoes	...	...	...	...	203 tons
					75,560 tons

Ports from which Ships arrived.

Foreign—91.

France	...	...	...	Blaye	...	...	...	1
				Ambiers	...	...	...	1
Germany	...	...	...	Hamburg	...	...	...	2
				Bremen	...	...	...	2
Holland	...	...	...	Ymuiden	...	...	...	2
India	...	...	...	Vizagapatam	...	...	...	1
North Africa	...	...	...	Bona	...	...	...	3
				Casablanca	...	...	...	3
				Melilla	...	...	...	1
Norway	...	...	...	Kirkenes	...	...	...	52
				Kristiansund	...	...	...	1
				Moi-Rana	...	...	...	10
				Mosjoen	...	...	...	3
Russia	...	...	...	Poti	...	...	...	5
Spain	...	...	...	Almeria	...	...	...	1
				Bilbao	...	...	...	1
Sweden	...	...	...	Oxelsund	...	...	...	1
West Africa	...	...	...	Conakry	...	...	...	1

Coastwise—333.

Ardrossan	...	...	3	Greenock	...	...	16
Avonmouth	...	...	1	Heysham	...	...	34
Ayr	...	...	3	Holyhead	...	...	7
Bangor	...	...	1	Larne	...	...	2
Barrow	...	...	8	Limerick	...	...	1
Belfast	...	...	22	Liverpool	...	...	37
Birkenhead	...	...	31	Londonderry	...	...	7
Cardiff	...	...	1	Manchester	...	...	3
Carrickfergus	...	...	2	Mostyn	...	...	3
Connah's Quay	...	...	9	Newry	...	...	1
Dingle	...	...	1	Portsmouth	...	...	1
Drogheda	...	...	1	Preston	...	...	6
Douglas	...	...	2	Runcorn	...	...	5
Dublin	...	...	7	Shotton	...	...	1
Dundalk	...	...	1	Silloth	...	...	1
Ellesmere Port	...	...	1	Sligo	...	...	2
Faslane (Clyde)	...	...	5	Stanlow	...	...	74
Fort William	...	...	1	Troon	...	...	1
Garston	...	...	1	Waterford	...	...	1
Glasgow	...	...	4	Weston Point	...	...	1
Glasson Dock	...	...	2	Whitehaven	...	...	1
Fishing Grounds				...	21		

SECTION IV—INLAND BARGE TRAFFIC.

There is no inland barge traffic.

SECTION V—WATER SUPPLY.

The Authority for supplying water is the West Cumberland Water Board, and vessels in the dock are supplied with drinking water from dockside hydrants.

The source of supply is Crummock Lake with a gathering area of some 25 square miles. Regular chemical and bacteriological examinations of samples show the water to be of a high degree of purity.

On all vessels enquiries are made as to the source of existing drinking water and the frequency of cleaning out water tanks. During the year samples of water from five vessels proved satisfactory.

SECTION VI—PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS) REGULATIONS, 1952.

The arrangements for dealing with quarantinable diseases, radio messages, mooring stations and disinfection remains the same and was fully dealt with in my last report.

SECTION VII—SMALLPOX.

The measures for dealing with smallpox are the same as outlined in my previous report.

SECTION VIII—VENEREAL DISEASE.

Treatment for venereal diseases is readily available for seamen of all nationalities. Information cards issued to each docking ship and dock posters in suitable places direct men to the appropriate doctor in town who is employed by the Regional Hospital Board for this purpose. Despite this, one or two cases are known not to have had comprehensive treatment. In such a confidential matter it is perhaps difficult for captains and officials of the dock to realise what is needed for men who simply ask to see a doctor, but it is hoped this coming year to influence captains, who are up to a point "in loco parentis" to the crew, to interest themselves more in the subject and exert their influence to ensure that any case gets directed to the treatment centre.

During the year one case was known to have attended for treatment.

SECTION IX—

CASES OF NOTIFIABLE AND OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES
ON SHIPS.

No case was reported on any vessel entering Workington Dock during the year.

On one vessel only was sickness reported, that being an acute asthma case on a British vessel from Russia.

SECTION X—MALARIA.

Prior to vessels reaching known mosquito infested areas regular doses of anti-malarial drugs are issued to seamen. No case was reported on ships reaching Workington as having, or having had, malaria during the voyage.

SECTION XI—MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST SHIPS INFECTED OR SUSPECTED FOR PLAGUE.

There has been no occasion to take action under this Section.

SECTION XII—MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS.

It is gratifying to report that no rats were discovered on any vessel entering the Port. The modern design of vessels, constant international vigil against rodents, and the types of cargoes (mineral) carried are factors which have achieved this satisfactory result.

During the year 21 Deratting Exemption Certificates were issued in accordance with the Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952, and 5 Rodent Control Certificates in accordance with the Prevention of Damage by Pests (Application to Shipping) Order, 1951.

SECTION XIII—INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR NUISANCES. INSPECTIONS AND NOTICES.

<i>Notices served.</i>				
<i>Nature and Number of Inspections.</i>	<i>Statutory Notices.</i>	<i>Other Notices.</i>	<i>Result of serving Notices.</i>	
British 329	Nil	11	1 vessel attention next port. Remainder carried out.	
Foreign 132	Nil	4	1 vessel attention next port. Remainder carried out.	
461	Nil	15		

The 15 notices cover the following defects, nuisances or other conditions prejudicial to health:—

	<i>British.</i>	<i>Other Nationalities.</i>
Insufficient ventilation	2	—
Leaking steampipe	1	—
Leaking deck (above accommodation)	1	—
Defective food lockers	2	—
Defective showers	2	1 Norwegian
Dirty provision storerooms	3	2 Norwegian
Dirty galleys	2	1 Danish
Dirty or choked waterclosets	3	2 Norwegian
Broken W.C. basins	2	1 Norwegian
Defective flushing cisterns	4	—
Choked scuppers	3	1 French
	25	8

The number of vessels that entered the Port during 1963 was 424 as compared with 416 in the previous year.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Number.</i>	<i>Total Net Tonnage.</i>	<i>Total Cargo Tonnage.</i>
1954	504	391,962	714,715
1955	578	355,141	699,550
1956	540	351,731	730,957
1957	608	377,009	750,901
1958	503	313,097	585,922
1959	418	303,251	685,774
1960	544	475,216	1,046,696
1961	464	288,194	588,909
1962	416	267,802	667,936
1963	424	274,154	611,994

The numbers by nationalities of the vessels entering the Port were as follows:—

<i>Nationality</i>					<i>No. of Ships.</i>
British	...	...	...	...	302
Norwegian	...	...	...	...	62
Dutch	...	...	...	...	35
German	...	...	...	...	13
Danish	...	...	...	...	6
French	...	...	...	...	4
Panamanian	...	...	...	...	1
Spanish	...	...	...	...	1
					424

SECTION XIV—PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELL-FISH)
REGULATIONS, 1934 AND 1948.

There are no shell-fish beds or layings within the jurisdiction of the Authority.

SECTION XV—MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS.
The Port is not approved for the landing of Aliens.

SECTION XVI—MISCELLANEOUS.

Special attention has again been given to the condition of the foreshore under the jurisdiction of the Authority, especially from the pollution aspect—sewer outfalls and discharges from collieries, steelworks and chemical works. Certain remedial measures have been carried out. The carcasses of 2 dogs, 3 sheep and 1 calf were also removed from the foreshore.

The various Regulations have continued to work smoothly and there has been no prosecution during the year.

I record my appreciation to Mr. J. Z. Bridgewater, Secretary and Manager to the Workington Harbour and Dock Company Limited, and his Staff, and to the Officers of H.M. Customs for their co-operation and assistance rendered during the year to your Port Health Inspectors and myself. To the Staff of the Port Health Authority I also tender my thanks.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Members,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES L. HUNTER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

Port Medical Officer.



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